Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A honeycomb structure comprising: X partition walls arranged in an X-direction so as to form a plurality of cells extending to an other-end portion from a one-end portion through an axial ~~direction;~~direction, the X-direction being substantially perpendicular to the axial direction; the cells having a cell pitch in the X-direction; ~~and~~ Y partition walls arranged in a Y-direction intersecting with the X partition ~~walls;~~walls, the Y-direction being substantially perpendicular to the axial direction and at an angle from the X-direction; plugging portions for plugging open end portions of predetermined cells among the plurality of cells in either end portion, wherein intersecting portions of the X and Y partition walls include a lacking intersecting portion in the one-end ~~portion.~~portion, the lacking intersecting portion is adjacent to a first plugging portion of the plugging portions, and the first plugging portion has a width that decreases in the axial direction toward an end surface of the honeycomb structure at the one-end portion due to a shape of the lacking intersecting portion.

2. (Currently Amended) The honeycomb structure according to claim 1, ~~further comprising: an~~wherein a partition wall intersecting portion at the lacking intersecting portion ~~in which an~~ is lacking in the axial-direction ~~depth of lack of the partition wall intersecting portion is~~ by a depth that is 10% or ~~more of a~~more of the cell pitch.

3. (Currently Amended) The honeycomb structure according to claim 1, wherein the intersecting portions of the ~~partition walls~~ X and Y partition walls include a lacking intersecting portion in the other-end portion.

4. (Currently Amended) The honeycomb structure according to claim 1, wherein the lacking intersecting portion ~~of the partition wall includes a portion lacking~~ extends to the other-end portion from the one-end portion.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended) The honeycomb structure according to ~~claim 5,~~ claim 1, wherein some of the plugging ~~portions include plugging portions lacking~~ portions, together with ~~the~~ surrounding intersecting ~~portions.~~portions thereof, are lacking.

7. (Currently Amended) The honeycomb structure according to ~~claim 5,~~ claim 1, ~~further comprising:~~wherein intersecting portions ~~which are lacking~~ around the first plugging portion ~~and~~ are lacking in ~~which~~ the axial-direction by a depth ~~of the lack~~ that is smaller than that of the plugging portion.

8. (Currently Amended) The honeycomb structure according to ~~claim 5,~~ claim 1, ~~further comprising:~~wherein intersecting portions ~~which are lacking~~ around the first plugging portion ~~and~~ are lacking in ~~which~~ the axial-direction by a depth ~~of the lack~~ that is larger than that of the plugging portion.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) The honeycomb structure according to ~~claim 5,~~ claim 1, wherein a catalyst component is carried on ~~the~~ a surface of the plugging portion.

11. (Currently Amended) The honeycomb structure according to claim 1, wherein the X and Y partition ~~wall comprises~~ walls comprise pores ~~and is~~ and are porous, and ~~the surfaces~~surfaces of the X and Y partition ~~wall~~ walls and/or ~~the~~ pore ~~surface~~ surfaces inside the X and Y partition ~~wall carries~~ walls carry a catalyst component.

12. (Currently Amended) A discharge fluid purification system comprising: a purification section for purifying a discharge fluid; and an introductory section for introducing the discharge fluid into the purification section,

wherein the purification section comprises ~~the~~ a honeycomb structure comprising: X partition walls arranged in an X-direction so as to form a plurality of cells extending to an other-end portion from a one-end portion through an axial ~~direction;~~direction, the X-direction being substantially perpendicular to the axial direction; the cells having a cell pitch in the X-direction; ~~and~~ Y partition walls arranged in a Y-direction intersecting with the X-partition walls, the Y-direction being substantially perpendicular to the axial direction and at an angle from the X-direction; plugging portions for plugging open end portions of predetermined cells among the plurality of cells in either end portion, wherein intersecting portions of the X and Y partition walls include a lacking intersecting portion in the one-end ~~portion.~~portion, the lacking intersecting portion is adjacent to a first plugging portion of the plugging portions, the first plugging portion has a width that decreases in the axial direction toward an end surface of the honeycomb structure at the one-end portion due to a shape of the lacking intersecting portion; and ~~a~~ the one-end portion of the honeycomb structure is disposed on an upstream side.

13.-23. (Canceled)